

(d) Collect any excess cost or charges;

(e) Advise the employee on the Government's liability for any loss and damage claims under 31 U.S.C. 3721-3723; and

(f) Ensure that international HHG shipments by water are made on ships registered under the laws of the United States whenever such ships are available.

§ 302-7.301 What method of transporting HHG should we authorize?

You should authorize one of the following methods, of transporting an employee's HHG, PBP&E and temporary storage. The selected method should be stated on the relocation travel authorization.

(a) *Commuted rate system.* For relocation or first duty station assignment within CONUS. This method will be used without regard to the actual expense method, unless that method is more economical to the Government and results in a savings of \$100 or more. Under this system the employee assumes total responsibility for arranging and paying for, at least the following services: Packing/unpacking, crating/uncrating, pickup/delivery, weighing, line-haul, drayage, and temporary storage of your HHG and PBP&E with a commercial HHG carrier or by renting self drive equipment for a do-it-yourself move. When any PBP&E is transported as an administrative expense of the agency, all arrangements (e.g., packing/unpacking, pickup/delivery, weighing, temporary storage, etc.) will be handled and paid for by you the agency.

(b) *Actual expense method.* For all shipments OCONUS and where deemed economical to the Government within CONUS. Under the actual expense method, the Government assumes the responsibility for arranging and paying for all aspects (e.g., packing/unpacking, pickup/delivery, weighing, line-haul, drayage, temporary storage, etc.) of transporting the employee's HHG, PBP&E.

§ 302-7.302 What method of transporting should we authorize for PBP&E?

You should authorize the actual expense method for transporting an employee's PBP&E only when the weight of the PBP&E causes the employee's shipment to exceed the maximum 18,000 pound HHG weight limitation. PBP&E should be weighed prior to shipment, if necessary, so the weight can easily be deducted from the 18,000 pound weight allowance. The PBP&E shipment should then be made separately from the HHG shipment and is an administrative expense to your agency.

§ 302-7.303 What guidelines must we follow when authorizing transportation of PBP&E as an administrative expense?

You have the sole discretion to authorize transportation of PBP&E provided that:

(a) An itemized inventory of PBP&E is provided for review by the authorizing official at the new official station;

(b) The authorizing official has certified that the PBP&E are necessary for performance of the employee's duties at the new duty station, and if these items were not transported, the same or similar items would have to be obtained at Government expense for the employee's use at the new official station; and

(c) You have acquired evidence that transporting the PBP&E would cause the employee's HHG to exceed 18,000 pound maximum weight allowances.

NOTE TO § 302-7.303: PBP&E transported as an agency administrative expense to an OCONUS location may be returned to CONUS as an agency administrative expense for an employee separating from Government service.

§ 302-7.304 When HHG are shipped under the actual expense method, and PBP&E as an administrative expense, in the same lot, are separate weight certificates required?

Yes, the weight of the PBP&E and the administrative appropriation chargeable must be listed as separate items on the bill of lading or other shipping document.